

THE LOVINGTON LEADER

Pride. Progress. Prosperity.

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LOVINGTON, NEW MEXICO, MAY 15, 1914.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

The Six-Forty Bill

To provide for stock-raising homesteads, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that from and after the passage of this Act it shall be lawful for any person qualified to make under the homestead laws of the United States to make a stock-raising homestead entry for not exceeding six hundred and forty acres of unappropriated, unreserved public land in reasonably compact form: Provided, however, that the land so entered shall therefor have been designated by the Secretary of the Interior as "stock-raising lands."

SEC. 2.

That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, on application or otherwise, to designate as stock-raising lands subject to entry under this Act lands the surface of which is, in his opinion, chiefly valuable for grazing and raising forage crops, do not contain merchantable timber, are not susceptible of irrigation from any known source of water supply, and are of such character that six hundred and forty acres are reasonably required for the support of a family.

Provided, that the Secretary of the Interior shall not designate for entry under this Act lands of such character that, in his opinion, six hundred and forty acres will not support a family.

SEC. 3.

That any qualified homestead entryman may make entry under the homestead laws of lands so designated by the Secretary of the Interior, according to legal subdivisions, in areas not exceeding six hundred and forty acres, and in compact form so far as may be subject to the provisions of this Act and secure title thereto by compliance with the terms of the homestead laws: Provided, that instead of cultivation as required by the homestead laws the entryman shall be required to make permanent improvements upon the land entered before final proof is submitted tending to increase the value of not less than \$1.25 per acre, and at least one-half of such improvements shall be placed upon the land within three years after the date of entry thereof.

SEC. 4.

That any homestead entryman of lands of the character herein described, who has not submitted final proof upon his existing entry, shall have the right to enter, subject to the provisions of this Act, such amount of contiguous lands designated for entry under the provisions of this Act as shall not, together with amount embraced in his original entry, exceed six hundred and forty acres, and residence upon the original entry shall be credited on both entries, but improvements must be made on the additional entry equal to \$1.25 for each acre thereof.

SEC. 5.

That persons who have submitted final proof upon, or received patent for, lands of the character herein described under the homestead laws, and who own and reside upon the land so required, may, subject to the provisions of this Act, make additional entry for and obtain patent to contiguous

lands designated for entry under the provisions of this Act, which, together with the area theretofore acquired under the homestead law, shall not exceed six hundred and forty acres, on proof of the expenditure required by this Act on account of permanent improvements upon the additional entry.

SEC. 6.

That in the event there are not contiguous lands in area sufficient to complete an entry of six hundred and forty acres, as provided for in this Act, the entryman or patentee shall have the right to enter with in a radius of ten miles from his first entry subject to the same requirements as specified for contiguous additional entries, lands in reasonably compact form which have been designated for entry under the provisions of this Act, that shall, together with the first entry, not exceed six hundred and forty acres: Provided, that the entryman shall be required to enter all contiguous areas open to entry prior to the entry of any noncontiguous land.

SEC. 7.

That any person who is the head of a family, or who have arrived at the age of twenty-one years and is a citizen of the United States, who has entered or acquired under the homestead laws, prior to the passage hereof, lands of the character described in this Act, the area of which is less than six hundred and forty acres, and is unable to exercise the right of additional entry herein conferred because no lands subject to entry under this Act adjoin the tract so entered or acquired or lie within the ten-mile limit provided for in this Act, may, upon submitting proof that he reside upon and has not sold or encumbered the land so entered or acquired, or relinquish or reconvey to the United States the land so occupied, entered, or acquired, and in lieu thereof, within the same land office district, may enter and acquire title to six hundred and forty acres of the land subject to entry under this Act, but must show compliance with all the provisions of the homestead law and of the Act respecting the new entry: Provided, the lands so relinquish or reconveyed as herein provided shall thereafter be subject to disposition only on such terms and under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.

SEC. 8.

That the commutation provisions of the homestead laws shall not apply to any entries made under this Act.

SEC. 9.

That any homestead entryman or patentee who shall be entitled to additional entry under this Act shall have, for thirty days after the designation of lands subject to en-

try under the provisions of this Act and contiguous to those entered or owned and occupied by him, the preferential right to make additional entry as provided in this Act: Provided, that where such lands contiguous to the lands to two or more entrymen or patentees entitled to additional entry under this section are not sufficient in area to enable such entrymen to secure by additional entry the maximum amounts to which they are entitled, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make an equitable division of the lands among the several entrymen or patentees, applying to exercise preferential rights such divisions to be in tracts of not less than forty acres, and so made as to equalize as nearly as possible the area which such entryman and patentees will acquire by adding the tracts embraced in additional entries to the lands originally held or owned by them: PROVIDED FURTHER, That where but one forty acre tract of vacant land may adjoin the lands of two or more entrymen or patentees entitled to exercise preferential right hereunder, the tract in question may be entered by the person who first submits to the local land office his application to exercise said preferential right.

SEC. 10.

That any person who has heretofore acquired title to land under any of the homestead laws of the United States and who is the owner and occupant of the land so acquired may purchase from the United States, not exceeding three hundred and twenty acres of stock-raising lands, as designated by this Act, or unappropriated and unreserved lands valuable for grazing contiguous to his said homestead, upon paying to the United States the sum of \$1.25 per acre for such lands, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, which said land, together with the area theretofore acquired under the homestead laws, shall not exceed six hundred and forty acres.

SEC. 11.

That all entries made and patents issued under the provisions of this Act shall be subject to and to contain a reservation to the United States of all the coal and other minerals in the lands so entered and patented, together with the right to prospect for, mine, and remove the same. The coal and other mineral deposits in such lands shall be subject to disposal by the United States in accordance with the provisions of the coal and mineral land laws in force at the time of such disposal. Any person qualified to locate and enter the coal or other mineral deposits, or having the right to mine and remove same under the laws of the United States, shall have the right at all times to enter upon the lands

entered or patented, as provided by this Act, for the purpose of prospecting for, mining, or removing therefrom, coal, or other minerals, provided he shall not injure, damage, or destroy the permanent improvements of the entryman or patentee, and shall be liable to and shall compensate the entryman or patentee for all damages to the crops on such lands by reason of such prospecting. Any person who has acquired from the United States the coal or other mineral deposits in any such land, or the right to mine and remove the same, may reenter and occupy so much of the surface thereof as may be required for all purposes reasonably incident to the mining or removal of the coal or other minerals, first, upon securing the written consent or waiver of the homestead entryman or patentee, second, upon payment of the damages to crops or other tangible improvements to the owner thereof, where agreement may be had as to the amount thereof; or, third, in lieu of either of the foregoing provisions, upon the execution of a good and sufficient bond or undertaking to the United States for the use and benefit of the entryman or owner of the land, to secure the payment of such damages to the crops or tangible improvements of the entryman or owner, as may be determined and fixed in an action brought upon the bond or undertaking in a court of competent jurisdiction against the principal and sureties thereon, such bond or undertaking to be in form and in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior and to be filed with and approved by the register and receiver of the local land office of the district wherein the land is situated, subject to appeal to the Commissioner of the General Land Office: PROVIDED, That all patents issued for the coal or other mineral deposits herein reserved shall contain appropriate notations declaring them to be subject to the provisions of this Act, with reference to the disposition, occupation, and use of the surface of the land.

SEC. 12.

That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to make all necessary rules and regulations in harmony with the provisions and purposes of this Act for the purpose of carrying the same into effect.

Montgomery Convicted

The jury in the case of the United States vs. George F. Montgomery, charged with selling liquor without a license, today brought in a verdict of guilty. U. S. District Judge William H. Pope sentenced Montgomery to sixty days in jail and imposed a fine of one hundred dollars.— Santa Fe New Mexican.

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Roswell, N. M.

METHODIST DATES

Notice for Publication

021066 (Troy L. Bullard)
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Roswell, N. M., Apr. 8, 1914.
Notice is hereby given that Troy L. Bullard of Lovington, N. M., who, on Dec. 11, 1910, made H. E. Serial No. 021066, for S. 1-2, Sec. 2, Twp. 10-S, Range 27-E, N. 31, P. M., has filed notice of intention to make three year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Ed. M. Love, U. S. Commissioner, in his office, at Lovington, N. M., on May 15, 1914.
Claimant names as witnesses: Doc Townsend, Oscar H. Greene, these of Knowles, N. M.; Joe Lynch, Clarence W. Howard, these of Lovington, N. M.

Apr. 12, 1914 May 15

Notice for Publication

023061 (Charles A. Aldridge)
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Roswell, N. M., Apr. 8, 1914.
Notice is hereby given that Charles A. Aldridge, of Knowles, N. M., who, on Nov. 22, 1910, made H. E. Serial No. 023061, for S. 1-2, Sec. 12, Twp. 10-S, Range 27-E, N. 31, P. M., has filed notice of intention to make three year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Edward M. Love, U. S. Commissioner, in his office, at Lovington, N. M., on May 15, 1914.
Claimant names as witnesses: Charlie G. Stiles, John T. Hawkins, Doc Townsend, Oscar H. Greene, all of Knowles, N. M.; T. C. Tillotson, Register.

Apr. 12, 1914 May 15

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